

April 2002

From Your (frazzled) Editor

Katina Strauch

Against the Grain, strauchk@earthlink.net

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Strauch, Katina (2002) "From Your (frazzled) Editor," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 14: Iss. 2, Article 2.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.3168>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

From your (frazzled) Editor:

Spring break has come and gone and the azaleas and dogwood are blooming in Charleston. This means it's time to open the windows and let in the sun, put up the woollens (such as we have them here), and generally get things done. At the library, we are faced with potential budget cuts which means numbers, lists, reports, spreadsheets.

This issue of *ATG*, like all of them, has some really practical, relevant information. **Audrey Fenner** talks about selecting an

academic library, **Sandhya Srivastava** and **Paolina Taglienti** talk about using MS-Access for acquisitions ordering, and **Dana Courtney** revisits the paper-cloth issue from a vendor perspective. We also have a look by **Kate McDill** at her summer internship at **Amazon.com**. Interviews are with **Vitek Tracz**, Chairman of the Current Science Group and **Barbara Haber**, librarian and new author. **Rick Lugg** and **Ruth Fischer** defend us tech services people in the back room, and **Sue Wiegand** talks



about the differences and similarities in products, vocabulary, and terminology. Whoa!

Happy reading! See you in June!

Yr. Ed.



Letters to the Editor

Send letters to [<strauchk@earthlink.net>](mailto:strauchk@earthlink.net), phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: **Against the Grain**, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the *ATG* Homepage at [<http://www.against-the-grain.com>](http://www.against-the-grain.com).

Dear Editor:

Regarding some inaccuracies in my Report on the 2001 Charleston Conference (*ATG*, February 2002), I offer my heartfelt apologies to **NERL** for identifying it as the "New England Research Libraries" instead of its correct name, "North East Research Libraries". I offer similar apologies to **David Kohl**. It is always unfortunate when misunderstandings or incorrect perceptions are widely disseminated. But I think this particular

instance has a potentially useful and instructive result: it draws attention to the complexity, even the obscurity, of the terms encompassed by the "big deals" **OhioLink** negotiates, and to the difficulties of assessing the benefits of these deals. I had checked my notes from this session against those of my Assistant Director; both of us are keenly interested in the subject and familiar with its complexities. That we could both misapprehend the speakers in identical ways suggests an even greater potential for

confusion among less sophisticated audiences, and a need for a more strenuous effort on the part of advocates of either position to prevent misunderstanding by thorough and evenhanded presentation of the major points of contention.

Sincerely,

Michael Young
(Head of Acquisitions Services,
University at Albany Libraries)
[<youngm@albany.edu>](mailto:youngm@albany.edu)

Rumors from page 1

MA 02472 and hopefully she will be at the Charleston Conference this year — October 31-November 2.

Dialog and **Gale**, two business units of **The Thomson Corporation** (TSE:TOC), have just announced a wide-ranging stra-

tegic alliance to build new online products and services for the academic and public library markets worldwide. The first set of products and services, being developed for public libraries, are expected to be available by mid 2002 when further details will be made available. The new alliance seeks to leverage **Dialog's** depth and breadth of online-based content, brand power and

technology platforms in combination with **Gale's** expertise and sales support infrastructure for its worldwide markets. Executives from both companies described the alliance as comprehensive and long-term. Both companies said that the new services will not displace existing products or services offered by either company. **Gale** — www.gale.com — a business unit of the **Thomson Learning** division of **The Thomson Corporation**, creates and maintains more than 600 databases that are published in electronic form, as well as in print and microform. The **Gale Group** includes **Macmillan Reference USA**, **Charles Scribner's Sons**, **Primary Source Microfilm**, **UXL**, **Greenhaven Press**, **Lucent Books**, **Kidhaven Press**, **Blackbirch Press** and **Thorndike Press**. Founded in 1972 by **Dr. Roger K. Summit**, a pioneer in developing the technology behind electronic information retrieval, **Dialog** is a leader in providing online-based information services

continued on page 8

AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES VOLUME 14 — 2002/2003			
Event	Issue	Ad Reservation	Camera-Ready
ALA Annual, AALL	June 2002	03/27/02	04/17/02
Reference Publishing	Sept. 2002	07/10/02	07/31/02
Charleston Conference	Nov. 2002	08/21/02	09/11/02
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 02/Jan. 03	11/13/02	12/04/02